



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.17 Thursday, April 28, 2016

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Luke: 'Residents deserve a lot more from city...'

Just before Sumpter Township Police Chief Eric Luke got up to address the Belleville City Council at its April 18 meeting, Councilman Tom Fielder had an announcement.

Councilman Fielder is also president of the Strawberry Festival and he announced that Chief Luke, who lives in the city of Belleville, was asked to be Grand Marshal for the Strawberry Festival Parade and had accepted.

Councilwoman Kim Tindall said that they had also asked retired Sumpter Police Chief James Pierce to be honored, as well, but he "respectfully declined."

Chief Luke said after that announcement it probably wasn't the best time to speak of his frustrations and disappointments with the city council.

"I brought Harbour Pointe to you," he said, holding up a cloth bag containing pieces of concrete from the street in his subdivision. He held up the large rocks and said, "This is a disgrace."

He said this isn't new. The roadway started breaking down four or five years ago and now the roadways are crumbling.

(continued on page 10)

VB School Board sets special meeting on interim superintendent

A special meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education has been set for 7 p.m., Thursday, April 28, at the Administration Building to determine what to do about the position of Interim Superintendent.

Present Interim Superintendent Shonta Langford-Green, who also serves as Human Services Director, has submitted her resignation as of May 11. A new superintendent is expected to be in place July 1.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Christopher Grzenkowicz, representing ALDI Food Market, showed the general layout of the site of the new store at the April 13 meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission. At the bottom of the drawing is Belleville Road, with the new drive at the new traffic light to the left and the drainage pond to the right.

VB T Planners give ALDI store preliminary site plan approval

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

ALDI, Inc. received preliminary site plan approval for a new store with a unanimous vote of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at its regular meeting April 13.

Constructed, just south of AutoZone on the east side of Belleville Road will be an 18,850-square-foot ALDI Food Market.

It will be a single-story, 1,440 square-foot retail commercial building for a limited-assortment grocery store. The site is about 3.76 acres on a 19.61-acre parcel.

The site fronts Belleville Road at the new traffic light put in to also serve AutoZone and the Menard store that is to be built on

the west of Belleville Road.

Christopher Grzenkowicz, a civil engineer representing ALDI, showed commissioners the plans for the building. He said they will extend the drive to the east entrance, put in sidewalks, and 85 parking spaces. There will be no cart enclosures because ALDI uses a cart rental/deposit system and there is no parking of carts in the lot.

Grzenkowicz said if a cart is found in the lot a customer can return it to the cart area and get a free quarter.

There will be covered bicycle parking and the western portion of the building is the sales area, with all glass doors.

He said tan, split-faced block will be at the base of the building, with red brick the rest of the way up on all four sides. A tower carries the ALDI logo and there is a secondary parapet that carries the food market sign. The truck well is to the east and there are two roof top units which are

(continued on page 15)

VB T OKs Wade-Trim engineering for McBride Rd.

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The hard surfacing of McBride Road in Van Buren Township is moving ahead, with the project expecting to be done by the time the school buses roll this fall.

At its regular meeting April 19, the VB T Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve a cost of not to exceed \$45,000 to pay Wade Trim engineers to do the topographical survey, specifications, bidding, permits, and a recommendation after the bids are open.

Dave Nummer of Wade Trim said if the contract was approved that evening, the surveyors would be out that same week to begin the work.

The asphalt paving of McBride Road is from Quirk to Beck roads, in front of McBride Middle School. Eighty percent of the cost is being paid through a Local Roads Initiative grant from Wayne County. The 20% matching money, \$180,000, will be from the Van Buren Public Schools'.

(continued on page 19)

Correction:

Anthony Woodford also running for VB T trustee in August primary

On the front page of last week's *Independent* we listed those who had filed by the Tuesday, April 19, deadline to be on the Aug. 2 primary ballot. But, we inadvertently left one name off the Van Buren Township list.

Anthony Woodford, a Democrat, is also running for township trustee and should have been on the list. We apologize for the error.

Others that will be on the primary ballot with Woodford running for the four trustee positions are: Reggie Miller, Paul White, Kevin Martin, Al Ostrowski, and Sherry Frazier. All are Democrats.

Jeff Jahr, who had filed, withdrew his name from the race by Friday's deadline for withdrawals.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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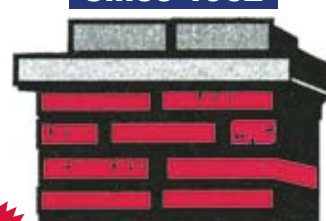
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Distinguished Graduates program to honor three on Friday

Three new Distinguished Graduates of Belleville High School will be honored in a ceremony at 7 p.m. Friday, April 29, at the BHS Auditorium. This will be in conjunction with the BHS National Honor Society induction ceremony.

Distinguished Graduates to be honored are Paul Ryznar, class of 1979; Victor Hogan, class of 1963; and posthumous honor to Reva Ruthruff, class of 1907.

Paul Ryznar, Class of 1979

Paul Ryznar grew up on a family farm in Van Buren Township, on Ryznar Drive, a road named after his grandfather.

His grandfather was an immigrant from Czechoslovakia and started farming in Van Buren Township. When they built the road, they named it after his grandfather. His father continued to run a small farm with an old tractor that his grandfather had purchased.

"We were always working on the tractor and farm implements," he said. "When I graduated from high school and was getting ready to go to college, it was a natural fit to go into mechanical engineering. I loved farming, but I liked fixing things more. That tractor is still running today."

Ryznar earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan and a Master's degree in Business Administration from U of M. He and his wife Eve have twin daughters, Emily and Elana, age 24.

Engineer, inventor and entrepreneur, Ryznar created Light Guide Systems and is the founder, president, and CEO of Novi-based OPS Solutions.

Prior to Light Guide Systems' invention in 2005, he held senior management roles at Detroit Diesel and Bosch, as well as vice president of production technology at Energy Conversion Devices – more than 30 years of manufacturing experience.

Light Guide Systems uses proprietary software and high-powered projector systems to guide and confirm completion of complex tasks. From assembly to quality control to training, this technology provides the visualization, traceability, and flexibility demanded by leading companies worldwide.

Ryznar and his team have implemented systems in leading automotive manufacturers (including Fiat-Chrysler Group, Daimler AG and Johnson Controls) as well as for applications in aerospace, heavy equipment, and health sciences.

"It's a product that basically makes complex manual processes as easy as just following the lights," he said. "It was originally designed for the automotive world and it was really set up to make factory floors safer, smarter, and more productive."

The company, which he started in 2005, employs 17 people. The systems sell for \$15,000 to \$180,000 each.



Paul Ryznar

Victor Hogan, Class of 1963

A life-long resident of Belleville, Victor Hogan graduated from BHS in 1963 and continued his education at the University of Michigan, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1967. Later, he continued to take post-degree work in secondary education.

He married in 1968. After serving in the U.S. Army (1968-70), he completed his Master's Degree at Eastern Michigan University in Cellular and Molecular Biology. Later, he continued to take post-degree work in secondary education.

He worked for seven years as part of a medical research laboratory at the University of Michigan Medical School's Department of Dermatology where he co-authored two original research articles in *The Journal of Investigative Dermatology*. He then was employed at a company in Ann Arbor where he worked developing immuno-diagnostic kits for the Department of Defense.

For the past 28 years, Hogan has continued to learn in his career. He is the projects manager of the Tumor Progression and Metastasis program at the Karmanos Cancer Institute at Wayne State University where he oversees budgets, supervises a cancer research lab and its scientific personnel, and coordinates their research efforts. In this position he has also trained dozens of post-doctoral students in the technical protocols necessary to become successful researchers.

One of the compounds which was first prepared by him and used in the experiments reported in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* in 1995, is currently undergoing a Phase III human clinical trial as an adjunct therapy to determine its effectiveness in delaying or preventing recurrence of prostate cancer following surgery.



Victor Hogan

Hogan has co-authored a total of 41 publications in collaboration with his colleagues. His findings have been published in *Cancer Research*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, *American Journal of Pathology* and 12 other scientific journals. He has collaborated with 76 co-authors from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Western Hemisphere and has been cited over 3,500 times. Two papers have been featured on the cover on the *International Journal of Cancer*.

In addition to his academic pursuits, he has contributed to the community. He was a Little League baseball coach and a member of the Belleville Community Players. He has been on the All-School Class Reunion committee since 2004. Hogan served for eight years on the school board of the Van Buren Public Schools where he contributed to planning and implementing the proposal that led to the building of the "new" high school.

Reva Ruthruff, Class of 1907

Reva Ruthruff was born on Jan. 20, 1889 in Belleville. She was the great-grandchild of Abraham Soop and Maria Spawn, who settled in the Belleville / Rawsonville area in approximately 1838.

Her parents were Myra Soop and Lewis Ruthruff. Reva grew up in Belleville in a house on Fourth Street, about where the library parking lot exists today. Her parents operated a bakery out of the home.

Reva attended Belleville Schools, where she was an excellent student and an accomplished pianist. She was valedictorian of the Belleville High School Class of 1907.

In 1902 at the age of 12, Reeva began writing a diary. On her 13th birthday on Jan.



Reva Ruthruff Fischer

20, she wrote, "Fine Day – My birthday today. I am 13 yrs. old. Dolly gave me fifty cents for a birthday present. Went to school. Milly Jacklin sang a solo, 'The Last Words of McKinley,' in the morning."

Reva's diary contains a fascinating historical account about daily life and runs from 1902 until about 1906. She talks about cutting ice on the river, skating on the river flats, flowering in Quirk's woods, and her day-to-day activities in the village of Belleville. She mentions names and families that we recognize even today, and gives a unique and refreshing perspective of village and school life from the viewpoint of a teenager in the early 1900s.

First mention of her teacher, Mr. Fred C. Fischer, was in 1905 and she often wrote about how he visited her house so she could accompany him on the piano as he played the mandolin. Some early comments about Mr. Fischer were not particularly flattering, but his name popped up more frequently as the years passed. It all ended well in 1908 when they were married – a year after graduation, and to a bit of a scandal as she was 19 and he was 29 – and he also was her former teacher!

Young Reva probably did not understand that while she wrote in her simple journals, she was creating a priceless historical document that detailed the lifestyle and activities of Belleville residents during that long-ago era. Most of the entries are in pencil and have faded, which required careful scrutiny with a magnifying glass and strong light to decipher and transcribe. The diary ended in 1906. If there were more entries, sadly they've been lost.

Reva Ruthruff Fischer and Fred C. Fischer built a home on South Liberty Street and had four children: Muriel Fischer Boelter, Ruelle Fischer Dominick, Deal F. Fischer, and Nola Patricia (Patsy) Fischer Dodge, all of whom graduated from Belleville High School. Reva Ruthruff Fischer died in 1968 at the age of 79.

OPINIONS

Editorial

New pedestrian walkway over I-94 to be landmark

On Tuesday afternoon, the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority decided it wanted a \$2 million pedestrian walkway along Belleville Road over I-94 whether or not it got a grant to help with the cost.

The walkway will have designs that will mark the area as Van Buren Township (not Belleville) and will be as outstanding to travelers as the blue Super Bowl design over I-94 at Telegraph.

The VBT DDA voted unanimously to apply for a \$500,000 grant from SEMCOG (Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments), which also puts it in the running for a Michigan Department of Transportation grant. The deadline for the SEMCOG grant is May 2 and the MDOT grant is a few days later. The DDA will find out if it got the grants sometime in July.

But, whether or not the grants are there to help pay the cost, the DDA will put up the pedestrian overpass with its special decorations to mark the township. Engineer Dave Nummer said they have to make sure the bridge over I-94 is strong enough to hold the designs they want to put up. Makes one wonder.

While they hope to start construction in 2017, it may be delayed. But, it's on its way. Whatever the schedule, it looks like pedestrians will have a new, safe way to cross I-94 in the near future.

And, it will be really pretty – we hope.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Karen Bliven, Director of the Van Buren Public Schools Transportation Department, is leaving this school district to go to work for the Huron School District next door in Huron Township.

The Transportation Department will throw a going-away party for Karen on Friday. Another person leaving this school district for a better job.

Leonard Armstrong from Armstrong Funland in Van Buren Township has been getting a lot of ribbing about a strongly worded, unsigned letter we printed concerning a trailer that was stolen from the Funland property.

Leonard said the owner of the trailer was very upset and wrote the letter about those who stole it. The man who owned it is a neighbor and a friend, Leonard said.

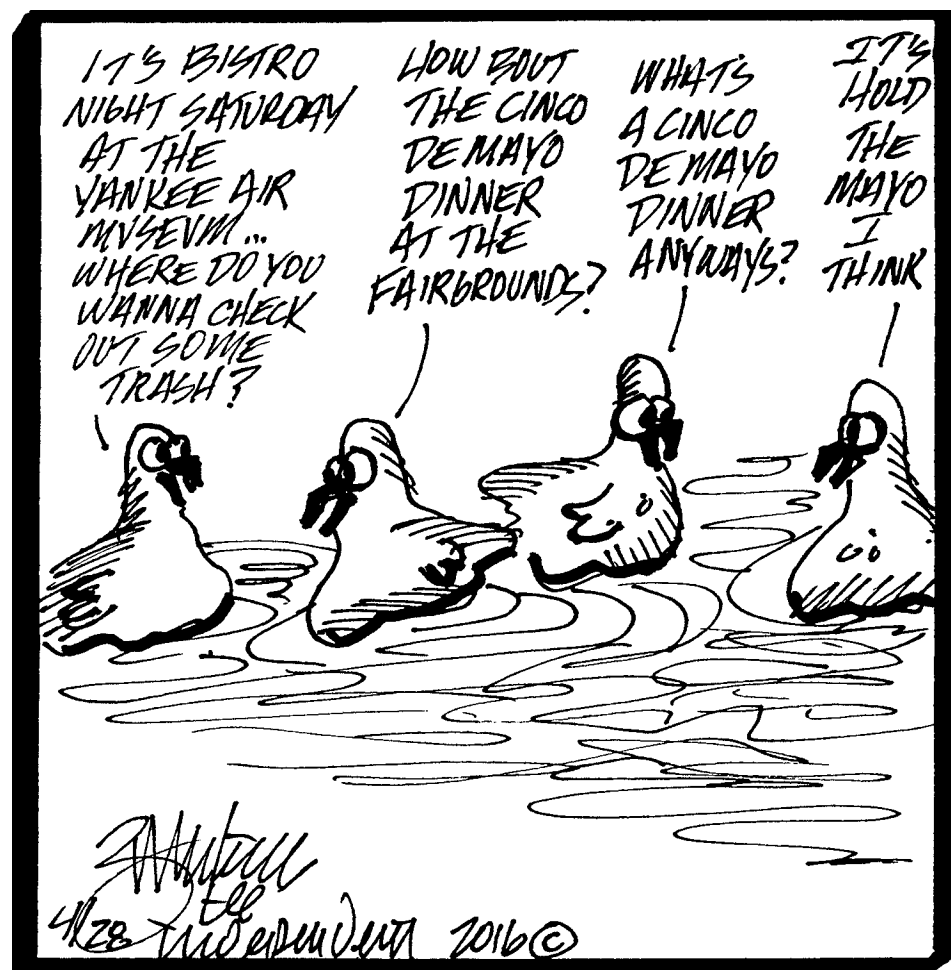
Leonard said most people know he doesn't use such strong language, but he's afraid some of his customers who don't know him well, might think he wrote it.

Leonard did not write the letter about the missing trailer. The upset owner of the trailer, however, is still offering the reward for its recovery.

Linda, a reader who now lives in Florida, said she agrees with James Chapman that the Riggs home should be saved.

"One of the problems with young people today is that they have nothing to relate to from the past," she said. "They can't touch it or drive by it when it's gone."

She noted the photos taken by the 10-year-old girl showed the hand-made corbels on the Riggs house. Linda said not only the corbels, but the whole house should be



saved. She said she could see no metal flashing around the roof in the pictures, which means she thinks the roof wasn't done right.

Meijer is opening a new Supercenter in Flat Rock later this summer and just announced it is hiring 280 people.

It will be hiring people for everything from clerks and cake decorators to customer service, cashiers, receiving and meat cutters. Starting pay will be based on experience level and specific skills.

Potential candidates should begin the hiring process by applying online at <https://jobs.meijer.com/new-stores>. Enter "Flat Rock" in the location search field and click search. Hourly candidates can apply by clicking on the positions listed.

Sounds like a good job opportunity.

Aldi will be hiring, too, once its new store is complete in Van Buren Township. I saw on a TV report that Aldi has a reputation for offering higher than average wages and benefits.

We've been asked repeatedly about when the T-Rex shooting range was going to open. On Tuesday, Nikki Paluch said the show rooms are done and they're waiting for permits from the township.

The range equipment was just delivered and it will take two weeks to be installed. She said they hope to have a soft opening


soon.

Michael Coleman of Van Buren Township, who leads a local Muslim group, is one of 18 people who filed suit April 5 in Virginia federal court against the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center, according to a story in *The Ann Arbor News'* April 10 edition.

Coleman, known in religious circles as AbdulKarim Yahya, said he and others have been inexplicably added to the government's watch list and have had to submit to extraordinary security measures. One of the plaintiffs, now 4 years old, was flagged as an infant. "Baby Doe" was just 7 months old when his parents found his boarding pass was stamped "SSSS." Every item in his mother's baby bag was searched including every one of his diapers, the suit said.

The suit calls for a judge to declare the practices of the screening center unconstitutional and to order the government to provide a way for people to find out why they were listed and contest their inclusion. The second suit is a class-action complaint seeking damages.

The government had 21 days to respond in court.



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INDEPENDENT**

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Letters

Supervisor Combs will not run for re-election

Dear Van Buren Township Residents;

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as your Supervisor for these past 3½ years. In answer to your many questions, I have decided not to run for re-election. My family situation has changed dramatically over the past year due to my husband's illness.

I appreciate the trust and confidence you've shown me during this term. I have worked diligently to make VBT a community of which we all can feel proud to call home.

There is, as always, a lot more work to be done, but I feel that we've made significant progress. We have an excellent team of department directors in place that will see the township well into the future with their professionalism and innovative ideas.

To lead this team, I am advocating for Kevin McNamara as Supervisor. In my opinion, Kevin possesses the experience, knowledge and foresight to take Van Buren Township down the path to becoming a truly premier community.

Respectfully,
Linda H. Combs, VBT Supervisor

Safety and other issues at Belleville High School

To Belleville High School Principal Abdul Madyun:

Mr. Madyun, this is Yuanettia Stevens. I came to the school on 3/23/16 around 10:16 a.m.-10:30 a.m. to get my child's things (because she is no longer a student there as of 3/8/16) and I was not asked for I.D. and to sign in or call back to the person I was there to see.

I was the lady with the red and black hair. We made eye contact while you and your staff was talking and I was waited on by a student. The only person that asked for I.D was Mrs. Brooks after I was in her face.

This is a problem and will be forwarded to the School Board.

Yuanettia Stevens
Sumpter Township

That drawing of library is preliminary rendering

To the Editor:

Many thanks to the *Independent* for beginning to get the word out to the community about the Belleville Area

District Library's plans for a new building (April 21st issue).

It is important for your readers to know, however, that the conceptual drawing that ran along with the article is NOT what the building will look like. Rather, that preliminary rendering, in its full version, was to give an idea of size and placement of the project.

As the plan is progressing, the windows and design components are presented in other drawings (available at the library), and will soon be incorporated into an updated three-dimensional rendering that we hope will also be shared in the *Independent*.

For now, members of the BADL Board would like the opportunity to speak to local groups to spread the word and show drawings of the plans (contact the Board to make arrangements at 734-699-3291). We look forward to sharing much more with *Independent* readers and the community at large!

Sharon Peters, chair
Belleville Area District Library Board

Sumpter Progressive Civic League to sell all

To the Editor:

The Sumpter Progressive Civic League, located at 24101 Sumpter Road between Dunn and Wear Roads, is having a spring-forward rummage sale. We will have several items available at cheap prices. Some of the items are two refrigerators, an electric stove, piano, organ, tables and chairs, and other miscellaneous items.

We need to get rid of as many items as possible. If you are in need or know of someone in need of these items, please come by and pick them up. All must go.

Our hours will be from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 30. We will also have good baked-goods desserts for your sweet tooth.

Springtime is a good time to get rid of the old to make room for the new. All items will be available in our parking lot and grounds.

Crystal Harris, president
Sumpter Progressive Civil League

Firefighters thank public for donations

To the Editor:

We wanted to let you know that we raised \$2,067 for Autism during our boot drive on Main Street back on April 2. We are donating all proceeds to Jack's Place for Autism in Southfield. We would like to thank everyone in the community that supported us on that rainy day with their generous donations.
Belleville Fire Department

P.S. Link for Jack's is:
<https://www.jacksplaceforautism.org/>

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"You can observe a lot just by watching."
— Yogi Berra

More Letters

St. Jude's Novena answered my prayer

To the Editor:

If you say this prayer nine times a day, by the eighth day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised when you receive what you've been asking for.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, keeper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Van Buren Township resident



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Obituaries



Helen K. Glinski

HELEN K. GLINSKI

(May 23, 1918 – April 22, 2016)

Helen K. Glinski, age 97, of Shelby Township, MI, passed away Friday, April 22, 2016 at Beaumont Hospital of Troy, MI. She was born May 23, 1918 in Port Huron, MI, daughter of Anthony & Lottie (Denza) Kopas.

She lived most of her life in Romulus, MI, as well as several years in Belleville, MI. She worked at Ford Motor Company in Ypsilanti for 25 years. She was a former member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, and September Days Senior Citizens, Van Buren Township. She was a long-time member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Romulus. She enjoyed painting, crocheting, quilting, vacations with family, and she loved taking care of her grandchildren.

Helen is survived by daughter Janis (Bruce) Collier; son-in-law Terrence Carrico; six grandchildren Alan (Lucia) Bitnar, Debi Crandall, Jeremy (Sarah) Carrico, Melissa (Daniel Soloman) Carrico, Andy (Lisa) Carrico and Scott (Shontaya) Carrico; 8 great-grandchildren and one on-the-way; a great-great-grandson Riley Tremont; also numerous nieces, nephews, friends and extended family.

Mrs. Glinski was preceded in death by her parents, husband Frank J. Glinski on September 21, 2002, daughter Judith Carrico, grandson-in-law Garrett Crandall, two brothers Anthony and Leo Kopas, also two sisters Lottie Talaga and Jenny Turbeth.

Visitation was Tuesday, April 26, 2016 12 Noon until 4 PM and 6-8 PM with a 7 p.m. Rosary service at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr. Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Funeral Mass was 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at St. Stephen Catholic Church, 18858 Huron River Dr. New Boston, MI 48164 with visitation from 10-11 a.m. Entombment was in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a story for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

BRUCE ROBERT CLARK

(April 8, 1956 – April 20, 2016)

Age 60, of Sumpter Township. Survived by wife Debbie; 3 children; 4 grandchildren; parents Rita and Robert; six siblings. Celebration of Life held at The Woodlands of Van Buren. David C. Brown Funeral Home.



Etta Ozelle Craft

ETTA OZELLE CRAFT

(May 30, 1924 – April 24, 2016)

Age 91, longtime Belleville resident.

Etta is the beloved wife of the late George (d. 1969); loving mother of Gloria (Ted) Crawford and the late Debbie (d. 2010); cherished grandmother of Tammy Salcido, Terry (Jennifer) Crawford and Stacie (Chris) Dessellier. Etta is also survived by six great-grandchildren and many loving extended family and friends.

Born in Ripley, Mississippi on May 30, 1924, Etta moved to Detroit at a young age. She became a Belleville resident in 1949. An avid card player, Etta also enjoyed cooking and gardening. She was a woman of deep faith and was very fond and loyal to her family.

At Mrs. Craft's request, cremation rites have been accorded and her family will have a private graveside service. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Heart to Heart Hospice, 30800 Telegraph Rd., Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

JOHN GERALD PAVLACK, JR.

(November 8, 1937 – April 19, 2016)

John Gerald Pavlack, Jr., 78, of Willis, MI, passed away April 19, 2016. He was born on the family farm and lived there all of his life. He retired from Ford Motor Company after many years of faithful service. John treated his nieces and nephews like his own children, and was a very giving man. He was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville.

John is survived by sisters Diane Mitchell of Romulus, Grace McCune of Willis, and Pat (Ron) Cronewett of Sumpter Township, also nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents John and Helen Pavlack, brother Danny Pavlack, and brothers-in-law Ron McCune and Joe Mitchell. A funeral Mass for Mr. Pavlack was held Friday, April 22, 2016 at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville at 11 a.m. Father Thomas H. Cusick officiated. Final prayers were held at 10:30 a.m. at David C. Brown Funeral Home, followed by the funeral Mass at St. Anthony's.

There was a time for visitation at David C. Brown Funeral Home (734) 697-4500 on Thursday, April 21, 2016 from 5 - 8 p.m.

Interment at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, followed the funeral at St. Anthony's.

Donations in John Pavlack's memory may be made to St. Anthony Catholic Church. Please sign the online guestbook and leave a memory for the Pavlack family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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More Letters

Honor and Remember a new national symbol?

To the Editor:

Shock is only one of many terms that come to mind when reading the hand bill of "Honor and Remember, Inc." Their opening statement: "In more than 200 years of our nation's history there has never been a specifically recognized symbol that reminds us daily of the sacrifices made by members of our military who lost their lives in service to our country..." is a travesty, a misstatement, and borders on chicanery.

To depict pictures of George Washington, young lads of the Union Army during the Civil War, World War One, Korea, Viet Nam, etc. and to suggest that these men and women had no "... recognized symbol ..." is blasphemous!

Men fought and died, and some went on to live and cherish their lives and REMEMBER sacrifices while doing their duty under "their flag." Here is a slight 750-year history in response to the "flim-flam" publication:

- Cabot sailed under the Royal Standard of England, the Red Cross of St. George on a white field, an emblem that was brought home in the year 1275 by King Edward I when, as Prince of Wales, he went on one of the crusades to the Holy Land.

- The Bedford Flag is the oldest American Battle Flag and was flown by the Bedford Minutemen Company at the Battle of Lexington and Concord and onward. It was the first flag fired upon by the British.

- The Betsy Ross Flag was the first Stars and Stripes displayed in the face of an armed enemy and was at Fort Stanwix, August 3, 1777. The flag was improvised. The white stripes and stars came from the soldier's shirts; a captain's cloak supplied the blue of the union; and the red stripes came from the flannel petticoats of the women of the garrison, who gladly donated them for the purpose.

- The Bennington Flag (stars w/76 in a field of blue and red/white stripes). Burgoyne, the British General operating in northern New York, in the Revolutionary War, heard that the Americans had collected some military supplies at Bennington, Vermont. He sent an expedition of 1,000 men to capture it. Colonel John Stark, a hero of Bunker Hill, and to fight under the Bennington Flag with 800 Americans, set out to oppose the British. When Stark saw the redcoats advancing down the road he pointed them

out to his brave troops and said: "Boys, there they are. We beat them today, or Molly Stark's a widow!" The Green Mountain Boys, flanking and fighting Indian-fashion, practically annihilated the British Regulars as only about 100 of them ever got back to Burgoyne's Army. It was the loss of these 900 men that contributed much to the failure of Burgoyne's campaign, which ended in disaster with the surrender of his Army at Saratoga, New York, October 7, 1777, a death blow to the British. The Bennington Flag was presented to Colonel Stark's Army by Nathaniel Fillmore, the father of the future President Millard Fillmore! An American colloquialism was derived after the Green Mountain Boy's victory for the broadsides headlines that read: "BRITISH DRIVEN 'STARK' MAD!"

- During the American Civil War General Lee had his personal flag red and white stripes, a blue field with white stars. (Looked very much like the Union flag.)

- There were three Confederate Battle Flags and the Stars and Bars term that commonly refers to the Confederate Flag is incorrectly applied. The original flag of the Confederacy was the Stars and Bars, adopted by the provisional congress, and used from March 1861 until May 1863. It retained the basic design and coloration of the Union flag, differing only in the number of stars and stripes or "bars". The seven stars in a field of blue represented the seven states to have seceded before the attack on Fort Sumpter and Lincoln's response. The flags similarity to the Stars and Stripes caused confusion on the battlefield. Some felt that it was similar to the Union flag, (remember this statement Honor and Remember) though many wanted to keep ties to the banner that waved over their forefathers. It was replaced by the Confederate Battle Flag, first in the army and eventually throughout the Confederacy.

- The modern meaning of the American Flag was forged in December 1860 at Fort Sumter and the American Flag was now used to symbolize American nationalism and rejection of secessionism. Before that day, the flag had served mostly as a military ensign or convenient marking of American territory ... flown on special occasions like Independence Day. But in the weeks after Fort Sumter ... as it did after September 11, 2001 ... that old flag meant something new.

The flag of the United States of America is one of the nation's most widely recognized emblems and has become a symbol of Americanism and power throughout the world.

Just keep in mind from the above list, the thousands who died and sacrificed, not for an

abstraction of cloth, but for THEIR FLAG, their ideals, and their way of life. They did NOT need another piece of cloth and be told this is what they needed to be "Honored and Remembered!"

And just how does this new rag "... recognize all individuals who have died as a result of serving in the United States military dating back to the founding of our nation" when the current 50 Star Spangled Banner does even more? It was the 48 Stars and Stripes that World War I and II warriors followed into battle; then the 50 Stars and Stripes that Korean and Vietnam and subsequent veterans followed and some wrapped in for the final journey.

I'm sorry for George Lutz who, "... on a quest to discover if there was a universally recognized public symbol that specifically acknowledges the men and women of our U.S. Armed Forces who never made it home ... found nothing." He should have considered the Star Spangled Banner under which his son and many others sons served! Or possibly his grief was so deafening, his son's military honors funeral service became passé. Words of our VFW Chapel Service come to mind. "When the call of our country was heard ... he answered ... marched away with an abiding faith in his God, his country and his FLAG!"

The VFW and PLAV and the American Legion are there for someone who, "... found nothing that acknowledges the men and women of our U.S. Armed Forces who never made it home."

It is also very disturbing to us that upon first glance or at a distance this "Honor and Remember" flag is so similar to the North Korea and North Vietnam flag!

We members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Belleville Post 4434 and the Polish Legion of American Veterans Belleville Post 167 strenuously object to any recognition of Honor and Remember, Inc. to be incorporated into the Veterans Memorial at Belleville. To do so would also be akin to allowing Korean War Veterans to fly the Korean War Flag, or the Freedom is Not Free Flag; or the any other war flags symbolic of veteran service. If one wishes to fly them, do it at home, that is your right, a right that all veterans and Americans fought and so many died for. But these 51 names on the memorial are those who sacrificed under the Star Spangled Banner and none other. There

are many, many charlatan organizations plying on veteran service and sacrifice with no pecuniary benefits to the veteran.

The oldest and largest flag manufacturer in the United States since 1847 (Annin Flag makers) has "The Killed in Action (KIA) Flag" with a mission statement and free flag program: "The KIA Honor Flag Organization honors and remembers our Nation's heroes for the ultimate sacrifice they have made for our country, our freedom, and freedom abroad. It is their mission to sponsor a KIA Honor Flag package for every Gold Star Family of a Fallen American Hero. KIA Honor Flags are offered free of charge to Veteran and American Legion Posts, museums, or similar organizations to honor and remember all Americans ..."

As for me - drape my coffin with my beloved flag ... The Stars and Stripes, my Ensign, my ONLY flag and "The Flag of Our Fathers!" It was not Honor and Remember that was hoisted on Mount Suribachi or flew at the Bulge; nor does it fly at Arlington or the hundreds of military cemeteries throughout the world; nor from the U.S.S. Arizona! No - it is The Flag of the United States of America!

We implore the City of Belleville to deny "Honor and Remember," and other such organizations, any affiliation with the Veterans Memorial and we thank you for the opportunity to have some input into your decision-making process. At this time we would also ask the Van Buren and Sumpter Townships to reconsider their decision to accept a substitute symbol other than the Stars & Stripes in honor of veterans.

Respectfully,

Cornell Anton, Jr.

VFW 4434 Jr. Vice Commander

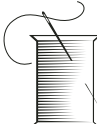
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More Letters

Cutest Baby Contest looking for candidates

To the Editor:

The Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding its annual Country Fest over Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-30.

One of the events at the Country Fest is the Cutest Baby Contest, a fundraiser for Parks and Rec. Children from age newborn through three years of age are eligible to enter.

Residents of Sumpter Township and neighboring communities are encouraged to submit current photos (up to 5x7 inches) of babies as soon as possible. The deadline is May 23.

Applications are available at local stores, restaurants and beauty shops. The photos and applications can be mailed or delivered to Sumpter Township Hall, Attn: Baby Contest, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 461-6201.

The winners of the contest are determined by votes, with \$1 equaling 100 points. The proceeds from the contest go to the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission to be used for events in the community, such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Family Fun Day and the Children's Christmas Party.

In this election, you are encouraged to vote early and often and to vote for as many candidates as you please!

All entrants receive a ribbon and a stuffed animal. The top three winners of the baby boy and the baby girl contests will receive

a trophy, and a U.S. proof mint set. The winner and runner up will also receive U.S. Mint coins.

Virginia Belinski
Sumpter Township

Ford Choir at benefit for Adopt-a-Child-Size

To the Editor:

I wanted to let you know about a benefit concert for the Adopt-A-Child-Size Program which will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church on May 15 at 6 p.m.

The Ford Choir (Ford Motor Company) and the Trinity Church Choir will be singing some favorite songs and hymns.

... I wonder if you would be so good as to ... to let people know about it through the *Independent*?

And although I know you won't want to use all of the following information, here is some additional information about the Adopt-A-Child-Size Program:

In 1986, Adopt-A-Child-Size began as a service activity under the supervision of Wayne County Regional Service Agency (RESA). After 10 successful years of serving children, the project became incorporated as a non-profit organization. The mission of the program is to advocate for disadvantaged children and their families, thereby positively impacting their school attendance and self-sufficiency.

Children from Belleville, Sumpter, Van Buren Township, Canton, Plymouth, as well as 27 other communities in the Western Wayne and Washtenaw counties have been served.

The program provides winter clothing for children in need. Children receive an entire winter outfit of coat, hat, gloves, boots, top, sweater or sweat shirt, sleepwear, socks and underwear. Families are referred through a network of local health, human service, education, and religious agencies.

If you could help us get the word out about the concert, we would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you,
The Rev. Sally Boelter
Trinity Episcopal Church, Belleville



Pausing for a picture at Tyler Elementary School's Leadership Day on April 22 are, from left, Bryce Harvard, Master of Ceremonies Khamari Johnson, School Board Trustee Sherry Frazier, Van Buren Township Trustee Reggie Miller, Principal Aleisa Pitt, and Master of Ceremonies Aeris Tabor. The students sang, rapped, and gave tours of the school, showing not only things that they have been learning, but how to become a leader, beginning with themselves.

Tyler students put on inspiring Leader event

To the Editor:

I thought I would share the inspiring Leader In Me program at Tyler Elementary School I attended this morning [April 22].

Camp Lead-a-Lot was the theme and the students were in charge of the program with the adults on the sidelines. The whole school participated as guests toured the classrooms and students got to demonstrate the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.

Students have adopted these positive habits into their daily learning and school culture and it shows.

We got to see first-hand how students become leaders in supporting each other and contributing to their communities.

They shared their learning data, proud

accomplishments, leadership notebooks, and how they are learning to take ownership of their learning. It was a great opportunity to see how hard the staff, administration, and supportive parents like the PTO and Watchdogs have gone above and beyond for students.

Sometimes we need to be reminded that it's all about students and providing them the opportunities to become great leaders of the future!

To Tyler, Savage, Rawsonville, Edgemont, Haggerty Pre School, Owen, McBride and the High School staff and administration: Please know that you are making a difference every day in students' lives and partnering with parents and the community only makes us better.

Thank you for a job well done.
Sherry Frazier, Trustee
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City Council

(continued from page 1)

He said in February he read in the *Independent* that the city council was going to set up an informational meeting on upgrading the roads in the city.

“Mayor Conley,” Luke said, “you drive it every day.” The mayor also lives in Harbour Pointe.

Luke said a piece of concrete hit his house when a car drove by and knocked it loose. He said Harbour Pointe Drive must be one of the worst streets in the city, if not the worst.

Mayor Conley said Greylock is the worst street and Harbour Pointe is second.

“I’m angry,” Luke said. “It takes a lot for me to come here on my week off.” He said he also picks up the asphalt patches that are loose so he doesn’t fall when he crosses the street to visit a neighbor.

“The residents deserve a lot more from the city council and city government,” Luke continued.

“Most of the dirt roads in Sumpter Township are better than this,” he said.

Mayor Conley said the city intends to set up one meeting, if not multiple meetings, to discuss the condition of the streets since they will have to have a bond issue.

“We’re going to have to bite the bullet,” Mayor Conley said. She said the ranking of the streets shows Harbour Pointe as the second-worst street and the rankings were done independently, referring to any criticisms that might arise because her home is in that subdivision.

Conley said there has been a changeover in the city’s DPS Director, with the one who championed the road upgrades leaving and his replacement leaving, as well. She said the city engineers will have to do it, now.

Building Official Rick Rutherford said since it got warm the street sweepers have been going out on a more regular basis.

“The sweeper must double in weight going down Harbour Pointe,” Luke said, adding over the past three years the street has become more crumbled each year, once the deterioration process took hold.

Luke said when he comes home from work, he bumps along W. Columbia Avenue and then bumps into his subdivision.

Rutherford said after the Strawberry Festival, Wayne County will be resurfacing West Columbia from Five Points to Elwell Road. He said the county also talked about expansion to the guard rail around the corner at High Street.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said they are told there will be no ditches. The ditches put in along East Huron River Drive last summer gave the city headaches.

Rutherford said they plan to be done by the time school starts.

“We’re talking about a large amount of money here,” said Councilman Tom

Fielder. “Shame on us if we don’t ask you that question.”

Luke asked what if people say no. “We can’t go back to dirt roads. What would happen to Harbour Pointe?”

Mayor Conley said the structure set up was a five-year project, doing the worst first and then down the list. By the end of the five years, they should be done, she said.

“Some people have good streets,” Luke said, referring to Bedell, “and may not want to pay for other streets in the city.”

Mayor Conley said she wishes they could ask the schools to help since all the heavy buses go down the streets and then there’s the trash trucks.

Luke said Mike Renault asked at a city meeting if the Downtown Development Authority couldn’t pay for streets in its district, such as Victoria Commons.

Mayor Conley said that could happen if the DDA had enough money.

The mayor pointed out Harbour Pointe and Victoria Commons were both built more than 20 years ago.

“I can still go to parts of the world and walk down Roman roads and I walk on my road and hurt myself,” Luke said.

City Manager Kollmeyer said they would need a bigger facility than city hall for the meeting on the streets. Mayor Conley said they could possibly get the Commons at Belleville High School. They would have two meetings with the engineer present and possibly broken into presentations by phases proposed.

In other business at Monday’s meeting, the council:

- Approved the Relay for Life walk/fund raiser for Saturday, May 14, closing High Street between the gazebo in Horizon Park and Johnny’s parking lot from 8 a.m. to midnight;

- Approved closing the south side of Roland Street from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 10 for the Belleville Area Garden Walk, the 2016 fund raiser for the library. A limited access lane for residents will be left open;

- Heard Alan Whitehead of Kona Running Company withdraw his request to use the Fourth Street Square for a beer/wine tent on June 17 for the end of the Kona Strawberry Run, from 4 to 10 p.m. He said he didn’t get the quote he wanted and they are looking for an alternative location, which would be on the lake near Horizon Park. “If we’re not supplying the beer, we’ll be giving out ice cream,” Whitehead said. Mayor Kerreen Conley said everyone knows where he is talking about and the parking lot at that establishment is a city parking lot so he might have to come back to see the council about using it, after all. Whitehead said last year they had parking problems for the 1,400 participants, but now they have made arrangements for parking at Lakewood shopping center

and shuttle buses. He said participants have been impressed with the lake setting, calling it “pretty awesome”;

- Approved the 2016-17 budget session schedule, beginning May 9 with the first review, at 6 p.m. A proposed budget will be presented to council by the city manager at the May 2 council meeting;

- Approved accounts payable of \$78,429.35 and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to EJ \$2,320.50 for hydrant from Water funds; to Metro Environmental \$745 for sewer repair from Water funds, and to MDEQ \$2,000 for annual fees from Water funds;

- Heard City Manager Kollmeyer announce that Belleville has again received money from a Wayne County program to offer summer jobs. She said they will get \$49,000 to pay for 12 positions, 28 hours a week, for those aged 14 to 24;

- Heard City Manager Kollmeyer report that the city is planning a meeting of the Civil Service Commission next Tuesday or Wednesday, depending on when the members can meet, to consider potential police officer candidates, and candidates for city clerk/treasurer;

- Heard Councilman Fielder say he attended last Friday’s Council of Western Wayne meeting in Plymouth on behalf of the mayor and learned the CWW region is the first in Wayne County to offer 911 texting, as secondary to phoning in a 911 call;

- Heard Councilman Tom Smith announce the Belleville Area Council for the Arts fund raiser for Music Lakeside is usually

in June, but this year it will be Sept. 9 at BYC; and

- Heard Kollmeyer announce that since the city now has no DPW Director, Building Official Rutherford has agreed to come in from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., rather than 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., to handle some of the work temporarily.

‘Gardening Community Day’ set Saturday, April 30 at WCCC

The Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County present “Gardening Community Day” from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Road, Van Buren Township.

All presentations, demonstrations, and kids activities are free. A hot dog lunch is available for \$4.

At noon, Kristine Hahn, a Michigan State University Extension Educator, will speak on “Managing Beneficial Insects or Good Bug, Bad Bug.”

Twenty-minute garden presentations will be held at 10:30 a.m. – Raise Your Own Worms for Compost; 11:15 a.m., “Learn Seed Saving Techniques”; and 1:15 p.m., “More Practical Gardening Ideas.”

Guests will be able to learn from trained Master Gardeners how to grow healthy, productive, sustainable gardens, and get information on smart plants, lawns, practices, and smart gardening.

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	2	4
	3	3
	4	2
Miller Elementary	5	4
	K	5
	1	2
	2	4
	3	1
Renton Junior High	4	2
	5	6
	6	5
	7	5
	8	5
Huron High School	9	5
	10	5
	11	5
	12	5

Applications are available at the Huron School District Administration Building

Applications will be accepted between the dates listed below

May 2, 2016, through May 20, 2016

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More Letters

Consider carpooling to fight traffic congestion

To the Editor:

The "Revive275" road repair project scheduled to begin this month, April 2016, will run through November 2016. The construction project will span from 5 Mile Rd. to the I-696/M-5 interchange.

That is only a distance of approximately five miles. However, slow travel, and heavy traffic along I-275 will greatly affect traffic along east and west I-96/I-696, and both north and south I-275.

Are you ready for the headache of congested highway traffic and slow travel to, and from work each day until November?

If you do not have a specific plan to deal with the heavy traffic and slow travel, consider this idea. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) has initiated a "Commuter Challenge." Although this initiative is designed to improve air quality through eco-friendly commuting by taking the bus, car and vanpooling, biking, walking, and telecommuting, it can also be helpful in dealing long slow commutes in heavy traffic.

If you log onto SEMCOG's website and log your green commute during the month of May, you could win prizes for choosing one of the alternative methods of commuting described above. Simply log onto www.semco.org and take the challenge.

Consider this: According to the 2010 census, Van Buren Township has a population of 28,821 residents. However, Van Buren Township has a daytime population of 26,330 which is an indication that many of our residents live here, but they work elsewhere.

SEMCOG's website indicates that 86% of employed Van Buren Township residents (above the age of 16) drive alone to work.

Only 11% of our employed residents use car and vanpools. SEMCOG further indicates that only 11% of our employed residents work in Van Buren Township, and 37% of residents work elsewhere.

With the upcoming I-275 road project it might be a good time to team-up with SEMCOG's "Commuter Challenge" to reduce the local carbon emission footprint, and possibly win a gift in the process. If you have ever considered car or vanpooling, or any shared ride programs, this might be the ideal time to put those plans into action. By doing so you can reduce the cost of your commute, and enjoy the company of other commuters while navigating slow, heavy traffic. This experience could turn the seven-month construction project into a

positive experience that could change how you view your daily commute to work.

Brenda McClanahan
Van Buren Township

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for Kevin McNamara Van Buren Township Supervisor



*"I have asked
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*Linda Combs
Retiring Township Supervisor*

*Paid for by Charles Tackett II, 18419 Gulf-to-Bay, Clearwater, Fl. 33764.
VFW Life Member Veteran MACV*

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29** – There's a big Flea Market at September Days Senior Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds to benefit the Senior Center.

• **Thursday, April 28** – Join the Southwestern Wayne [County] Democratic Club at 7 p.m. at the Wayne County Fair Grounds with guest speaker Matt Friedrich speaking on the "Earned Sick Time Ballot Initiative Campaign."

• **Saturday, April 30** – Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County invite you to "Gardening Community Day" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Rd., Van Buren Township. Guest speaker on bugs at noon, gardening presentations, kids touch worms and plant seeds, hot dog lunch is \$4; the rest is free.

• **Saturday, April 30** – The Write Stuff Writer's Group at the Belleville Library is having a local guest author visit on from 1-3 at the Belleville Area District Library. Anthony L. Isom, a writer who works at the Adrian District Library and is an actor at the Croswell Opera House, will be visiting Belleville to share his passion, vision, and excitement about writing to any local aspiring authors! It is a free program and no registration is required

• **Saturday, April 30** – Van Buren Public Schools Student Art Show, K-12, noon to 5 p.m. at the BHS Commons.

• **Sunday, May 1** – Country music from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Group is TBA. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, May 1** – Bugles Across America is at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans' Memorial in Horizon Park in Belleville. Those attending pledge the flag, listen to "Taps" played and honor those who have and are serving in our armed forces.

• **Wednesday, May 4** – Fundraiser for Honor and Remember, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., at Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Township. Ten percent of sales donated to Honor and Remember, with copy of flyer. Info: (734) 699-1000.

• **Thursday, May 5** – National Day of prayer event at Belleville Free Will Baptist Church, 750 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Everyone welcome to pray at the church every hour believing God can "Wake Up, America."

• **Thursday, May 5** – World Day of Prayer at noon at Victory Station, Five Points, Belleville. Pray to "Wake Up America" and sing patriotic songs.

• **Saturday, May 7** – Huron Valley Conservation Association is holding its annual flower sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the corner of High and Main streets in downtown Belleville.

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Anthony Woodford announces candidacy for Van Buren Twp. trustee

Fellow citizens of Van Buren Township, it is with great humility that I am announcing my candidacy as a Democratic candidate for the office of trustee.

The need for competent leadership in Van Buren Township has never been greater.

We cannot afford to carelessly elect individuals lacking the requisite skill sets needed to positively impact our community as members of the governing board.

Regrettably, some members currently serving on the board

have been remiss in their responsibilities to carry out their duties in a manner that leaves no doubt as to their willingness to act in the best interest of the residents of Van Buren Township.

This is demonstrated by their misguided approach to increased taxation based on their disingenuous claim of needing money for Public Safety. The residents of Van Buren Township deserve honest and transparent leadership. It is as simple as that. When our elected public officials show us who they really are, it behooves us to believe them and act appropriately with regards to them moving forward.

Throughout my life I have been totally committed to public service. I served in the United States Navy for four years during the Viet Nam War while holding a Top Secret clearance. And, I am proud to be a Viet Nam War Veteran.

My career path in public safety spans over 35 years with a focus in law enforcement. As a police officer with the Detroit Police Department I advanced through the ranks to lieutenant and commanded several key units, some of which were: Commanding Officer of 12th and 10th Precinct Investigative Operations, Commanding Officer of the Western District Investigative Operations, Squad Leader of the Homicide Felony Murder Squad and the Use of Fatal Force Unit.

Upon retiring from the Detroit Police



Woodford

Department, I served as a Special Agent with the Federal Investigative Services Division for five years conducting background investigations on individuals seeking positions with the federal government involving National Security and/or Public Trust. I also served as a member of the Van Buren Township Public Safety Committee.

My educational background consists of a Bachelor Degree of Interdisciplinary Studies with a focus in Technology and a minor in Business Administration from Wayne State University and a Master's Degree of Interdisciplinary Technology with a focus in Police Management from Eastern Michigan University.

I am also a graduate of Eastern Michigan University School of Police Staff and Command. I also graduated from the Federal Investigative Services Division, Special Agent Academy.

Dedicating myself to public service has always been a choice for me, guided by Humility, Ability, and Integrity. I know who I serve and I humble myself to the task. I prepared myself to serve through education and experience, and I will not compromise my integrity at any cost. Therefore, I sincerely ask that you support me with your vote on Aug. 2, 2016.

Anthony Woodford
Van Buren Township

Sumpter Pet Care adds new veterinarian to staff, expands hours

Sumpter Pet Care at 19435 Sumpter Road, near Willis Road, has added a new associate veterinarian to the practice, Dr. Valerie Mahoney.

Dr. Mahoney is a soft tissue surgeon and General Medicine practitioner. She is in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, and one Saturday per month.

Dr. Yvonne Craiger, Sumpter Pet Care's founder, also announces the practice has expanded evening hours: Monday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; as well as Tuesday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Wednesday and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The website has an online pharmacy and other information: sumpterpetcare.com.

Book signing is part of Art, Garden Show on Sunday, May 1, in VBT

Michigan Emmy award-winning songwriter Kitty Donohoe announces the release of her first children's book, "Henny and Benny Bunyan and the Maple Syrup Adventure."

The Henny and Benny characters are distant relatives of the legendary

lumberman Paul Bunyan and their first story involves a flapjack contest, a sled, maple syrup, and possible disaster for the little town of Pineville.

She will be doing a book signing at the Art and Garden Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 1, at 47947 West Huron River Drive in Van Buren Township. Local artists will also have their creations for sale, and garden items will be available.

For information, call (734) 699-9050.



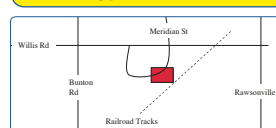
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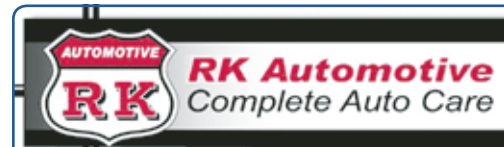
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Great Mother's Day

Gifts & Plants!

Featuring Local Artists

Special Book Signing by
Musician

Kitty Donohoe

Irish Singer/Songwriter



ALDI

(continued from page 1)

screened.

Sally Hodges of McKenna Associates, the township's planning consultants, said the Cleveland Pear trees proposed as street trees are not durable enough and not long-lived – only living about 25 years. She wanted the trees changed.

Hodges wanted the parapet wall to be extended to act as screening for the roof units instead of the screening planned.

She said ALDI has planned 8.1 square feet too much of signs and will have to reduce that. Hodges recommended living ground cover or mulch be put along the plantings used on Belleville Road instead of river rock. Also, she suggested faux windows and other character and relief be added to the building façade facing Belleville Road.

Hodges said the monument sign proposed needs to be revised to comply with the

ordinance to have a durable supporting base as least 24 inches in height with no separations between the sign face and the base.

But, she recommended, overall, that the preliminary site plan should be granted.

Wade Trim engineer Dave Nummer mentioned a proposal to construct an 8-inch public water main along the east AutoZone property line for easier maintenance, but Grzenkowicz said AutoZone is not interested.

As far as mulch, Grzenkowicz said ALDI prefers river rock because it doesn't blow around. Also when they put in the monument base Hodges described, they will have to reduce the size of the sign which will satisfy the 8.1 square feet overage. Comments about the draining pond were met with Grzenkowicz saying ALDI is doing that to meet Wayne County standards, which includes a sedimentation pond that overflows to a lower detention pond that empties to the county storm drain along Belleville Road. The permanent pool

is 4 feet deep and could go up another 4-5 feet after a rain.

Vice-chairman Don Boynton asked about the regional detention pond that had been discussed for the township in the past.

Dave Nummer of Wade Trim engineers said the project hit a stalemate with the county drain commission office and it's permanently on hold. The issue had to do with ownership and maintenance of the pond and drain and this stopped the process, he said.

"I do not object to the river rock," said Treasurer Sharry Budd. "When you're using mulch, it gets weedy. Then you pour more on. Culver's has used river rock and its trees are doing fine. Mulch gets bleached out."

Commissioner Medina Atchinson said she agreed with Budd, adding, "I like the river rock ... It's a cleaner look and it stays in place."

Grzenkowicz said ALDI has proposed vegetative screening between the store and the property to the south.

Hodges said if that property does not become a park, it would convert to commercial. She said it's a property within transition.

She insisted rocks were a more hostile environment for trees because rocks retain the heat.

"The evergreens at Culver's are thriving," Treasurer Budd said. "Mulch is dirty and messy."

Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson asked if they couldn't put glass along Belleville Road.

Grzenkowicz said windows would bring in the hot, Western sun, but they could mimic glass and put in fake windows.

When Hodges pushed for extending the parapet up to screen the mechanicals, Grzenkowicz said they are not visible from the north side or Belleville Road.

She asked him to provide line-of-sight view, cross sections or photographs. She asked where other ALDIs with this design are located.

Grzenkowicz said this is a new design, with a much newer look. The closest store with this new design is located in Ionia, which opened in November.

Commissioner Ronald Jackson made the motion to approve the preliminary site plan, accepting river rock as mulch, and producing line-of-sight cross sections of the mechanicals, and putting glass along the front. This was seconded by Budd and passed unanimously.

In other business at the one-hour-and-28-minute meeting, the commission:

- Gave final approval to a request from USA Fireworks to set up a fireworks sales tent at Faith United Methodist Church, 6020 Denton Road, south of Michigan Avenue, for longer than the 7 days allowed by ordinance. The tent will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., except for Sundays when it will be noon to 10 p.m., June 18 through July 7. This is the fourth year it has been there; and

- Approved the preliminary site plan for Verdeterre Contracting's 1,440-square-foot addition to its building at 7994 Belleville Road on a site of 7.28 acres. Chris Brown, owner, said he has been on that site for 36 years. He said for 10 years they had 3-4 workers at the business, but now there are 6-8. The staff of 15-20 has to meet off-site at the Holiday Inn for training. Instead of putting in a sidewalk, he will contribute to the Downtown Development Authority's sidewalk fund and when Belleville Road is widened to 5 lanes the sidewalk will be put in. He wanted to avoid widening the driveway that is only wide enough for one car because he hasn't had an accident in 30 years and the commission allowed that with new signage to warn drivers. The bench already next to his office was allowed as an amenity.

Jack Knowles running for Scio Township supervisor unopposed

M. Jack Knowles, who resigned as Van Buren Township Director of Planning and Economic Development in 2015, is running unopposed in the Aug. 2 primary election for supervisor of Scio Township in Washtenaw County on the Democratic ticket.

Presently, Knowles is serving as a trustee on the Scio Township Board.

In his resignation letter to VBT Supervisor Linda Combs, which was printed May 7, 2015 by the *Independent*, Knowles explained his decision, which included a criticism of Trustee Jeff Jahr's treatment of him and other employees:

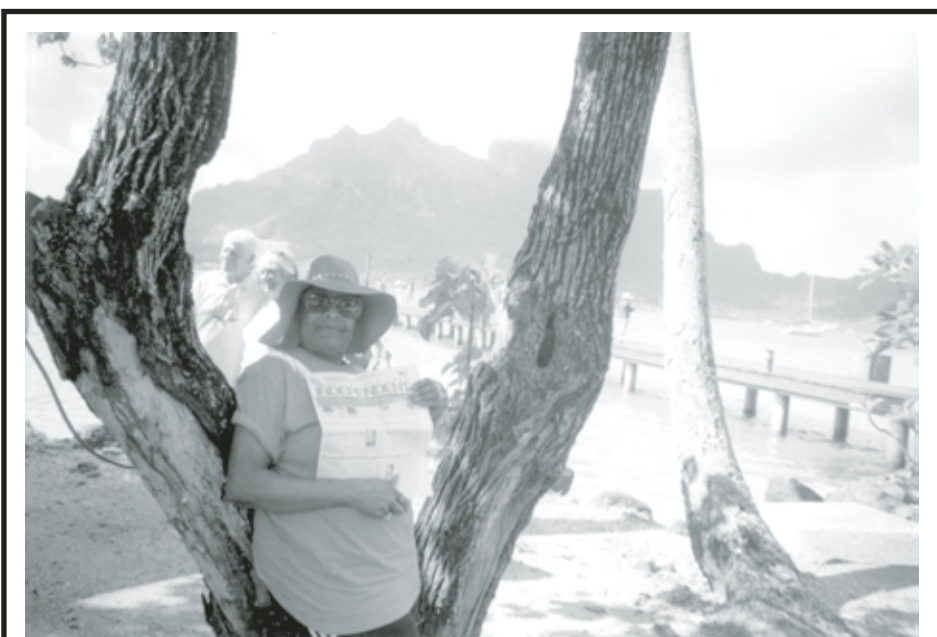
"... In addition to his inaccurate statements, his occasional flippant attitude and snippy remarks to both the Supervisor and myself are inexcusable for an elected official. Personally, I do not have time for such unprofessional, childish behavior..."

Knowles retired from a career as an architect before joining VBT. After he left VBT, he was Senior Entitlement Manager of Woodspring Suites, an extended-stay hotel based in Wichita, KS.

Trustee Jahr filed for re-election as trustee on the township board by the April 19 deadline and then withdrew his name from the running.

Ronald Akers took over as director of planning and economic development on Aug. 17, 2015.

"What we become depends on what we read after all of the professors have finished with us. The greatest university of all is a collection of books."
— Thomas Carlyle



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Vera Howell, formerly of Belleville and now of Southfield, takes a break from a tour in Bora Bora to read her *Independent*. She took a cruise March 7-27, from Australia to Tahiti and had a wonderful time.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

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RUMMAGE SALE

ANNUAL RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE at Community Free Will Baptist, 6945 McKean, Ypsilanti. Lunch served. April 29 & 30, 9am-4pm. 4/28

ANNUAL RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE at Morning Star Church, 44441 Clay Road. May 4, 5 & 6 and May 11, 12 & 13, 9am-5pm 5/5

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"If stupidity got us into this mess, then why can't it get us out?"

– Will Rogers

Court Watching:

Givens, Wells bound over to circuit court on home invasion charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Sharitta Marie Givens, 34, and Sean Lee Wells, 42, were bound over to circuit court for trial on matching charges of home invasion first degree after a preliminary exam before Judge David Parrott at the 34th District Court April 20.

Givens was represented by retained attorney Christopher Quinn and Wells was represented by retained attorney K. Irey-Iverson.

Before the preliminary exam could begin, Judge Parrott said Wells had a new charge of operating a vehicle with a high blood-alcohol content. He arraigned him, entered a not-guilty plea for him and set his pretrial before Judge Tina Brooks Green for May 23. Also, a \$10,000 personal recognition bond was set.

Wells' attorney asked for a few minutes with her client, since she didn't know about this new charge. She took him out of the courtroom for a few minutes and then they returned so the preliminary exam could begin.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Doug Dwyer called his first witness, Stephen Young, who testified by video from a jail.

Young testified that on Feb. 16 he was in a house at 12692 Hannan Road in Van Buren Township, where he lived, and he was using the bathroom. He said two people pushed the door open and he pushed the door back. He said when he finished, he opened the door and they were outside the door.

He said there was a man about 5'8" tall and a woman, about 5'4", with scarfs covering their faces from just beneath their eyes. They had crowbars in their hands. Young described the weapons as two parts of a jack system that they held up in front of them, mid-body.

Young said they were looking for a guy and thought Young was that guy. They were being aggressive and raised their voices and he said he felt threatened.

He said he went upstairs to his room and they followed him. He said he picked up a hammer in his room along with his ID card. After inspecting the card, Young testified, the woman said, "It's not him."

But the man tried to get the hammer out of Young's hand and while they were wrestling

over the hammer, the woman fell down the stairs. That's when the two ran out of the house and across the street to 12765 Hannan, in the city of Romulus.

Although it was awkward via video, Young identified Givens and Wells as the people who had been disguised with scarves and had run across the street.

Young said right after it happened, police asked him to go across the street to identify the couple, and he did.

He said police from both Van Buren Township and Romulus were at the scene since one house was in the township and one in the city.

Under cross-examination, attorney Iverson questioned Young about the houses. Young said the 12692 Hannan Road house where he lived was rented out to 8-10 people, with each renter having one bedroom. There also was a couple that lived in the garage. They all shared two bathrooms and a kitchen.

He testified that he didn't know if anybody else gave permission to Givens and Wells to come into the house. There was no lock on the front door.

Young said he handwrote a statement on what happened and gave it to one of the officers. Iverson said she had evidence from the police department, but no written statement.

Young said one of his neighbors had called the police while the incident was occurring. He said he talked to the officers from both jurisdictions that arrived and gave them a description. Police took him across the street to the other house and he stood at the front door.

They had found a male and were continuing to look for the female for a half hour, he said.

"They asked if he was the person and I said yes and they continued to look for the woman," Young said.

Iverson questioned Young, the witness. on his criminal history and found he was in jail on a probation violation from a home invasion charge.

He also had a past misdemeanor larceny conviction in 1999, an attempted breaking and entering of a building and attempted B&E of a vehicle, two separate charges in 2007.

Attorney Quinn also cross-examined the witness on the living conditions at the house. There was no lease and renters could leave at any time. The front door didn't have locks on it and there were no house keys.

Young said he went to the house across the street to pay the rent there.

Quinn questioned whether it was possible to break in if there were no locks.

Young again described the weapons, saying they were two pieces of a three-piece jack: the wrench to take lugs off and an adapter.

He testified the woman called him a Puerto Rican and a "mother f---er," but she did not assault or batter him.

The next witness was Michelle Scherrer, who testified she managed the two houses at 12765 and 12692 Hannan for the owner Mike Alexander who was in Florida.

She said Givens and Wells were upset with her for an eviction notice, having to do with the house at 12765 Hannan, where they stayed together.

Scherrer testified they argued with her that day after she got back from grocery shopping and then they found a note on the refrigerator. It was from someone named Hassan Sutherland who said he wouldn't be evicted without Mike, the owner, telling him.

Scherrer testified that after reading the note, Givens got upset and said, "We're not having any of that." That's when they put on their bandit masks and stocking caps and picked up the pry bar and iron, she said. She said she did not see them come back from across the street.

Scherrer said Givens hid in the bedroom and acted like she was sleeping.

Scherrer said police banged on her door and asked for a key to Wells' bedroom. She said she unlocked their door and, "There she was. On the bed." Police arrested Givens.

Scherrer said there were eight people in the house where Givens and Wells lived.

She said the two had no business being across the street since there is a verbal rule that renters cannot have guests. This all happened around noontime, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., she said.

Iverson asked if she had been drinking at the time and she said she had a 25 ounce bottle of Natural Ice beer for breakfast.

She said she wrote out a statement and gave it to an officer and Iverson said she hasn't seen that statement either, although she was told she had all the discovery information.

She said Mr. Wells was already in handcuffs when she came downstairs to help the police. She said she was giving 30-day eviction notices because the houses were condemned.

Scherrer said she has served Wells, and his

guest Givens, with eviction and also Hassan at 12692 Hannan, across the street. Hassan had moved from the garage into a room in the house and he had changed the locks.

She said she called Alexander in Florida and he said to put a note on his door, which she had done the night before. She said it was Feb. 15 when she served the eviction notices.

Scherrer said Givens and Wells folded up their eviction notice and shoved it back under her door.

Prosecutor Dwyer said he had other witnesses, but he wouldn't call them now and made a motion to bind the two defendants over for trial.

Wells' attorney Iverson said there was no home invasion first degree because people go in and out of the house and there is no lock on the front door. There is no testimony there is a breaking of anything. She said Young didn't know for sure if anyone gave the two permission to be in the house. The style and nature of this particular dwelling makes it impossible to know if they got permission, Iverson said. Also, no assault occurred.

Givens' attorney Quinn said there is no evidence of actual home invasion. He is renting a room and the bathroom is a shared space. Neither defendant entered Young's room and there was no breaking and entering without permission, he said.

"There was no first-degree home invasion," Quinn said.

Prosecutor Dwyer said no one gave them permission to be in there, and they can argue they had permission. On the identification, counsel can file a motion downtown corroborating the evidence. The witnesses ID'd them right after it happened.

"There are certainly many legal burdens to be drawn..." Judge Parrott began and then attorney Quinn's cell phone blared out loudly breaking the judge's train of thought.

Judge Parrott started over, stating the two attired themselves with masks, there was assault and battery and the victim had reasonable fear. They had shared space and there might be credibility issues, as well, but he decided to bind them over to appear at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit at 9 a.m., May 4, for an arraignment on the information.

Defense attorney Iverson said she wants all the written statements that she didn't get and she made arrangements with the prosecutor to get them.

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(continued from page 1)

Sinking Fund.

The Wade Trim contract will be paid out of the project funds.

A township water main, along the roadway, will be replaced at the same time and paid for with VBT Water funds. The work will use a technique that does not involve excavation.

In other business at the 38-minute meeting on April 19, the board:

- Approved amendment to the 2016 Planning & Economic Development budget that includes \$33,000 in pay for the continued scanning of documents and \$15,000 more to keep McKenna Associates working on-site hours on building demolition and ordinance enforcement administration. Department Director Ron Akers said 14 buildings had been originally identified for demolition and 11 more properties have been identified. Money for the amendment is from the General Fund fund balance;
- Approved allowing VBT to enter into a contract with South Huron Valley Utilities Authority for financing of the Aeration Mixer Replacement Project. VBT's share of \$627,000 will be paid from Water and Sewer cash reserves and VBT will not have to join in the SHUVA bond program or pay any of the interest;
- Approved the second readings and final approvals of six ordinance amendments

that will bring the township up to state standards in building and electrical regulations. Director Akers said these are housekeeping ordinances;

- Approved the second reading and final approval of an ordinance regulating Medical Marijuana Cultivation Facilities. The indoor facilities may be located in the seven or eight M-2 (Industrial) zoned sites of the far norther and far southern parts of the township. Dispensaries are prohibited;

- Heard an update on Senior Alliance activities in the township from Doug Simpson. Wayne County has discontinued money, as of Sept. 30, for Meals on Wheels, and so wait lists are expected during the 2017 fiscal year. "Bob Brown will make sure no senior goes hungry," Simpson said, speaking of the Senior Alliance director. Simpson also said they will be doing an audit to make sure that all those getting Meals on Wheels are entitled. Supervisor Linda Combs, the former VBT Senior Director, said, "We've never had a waiting list and hope we never do";

- Presented a proclamation to Mario Perkins recognizing the month of May as Motorcycle Safety Month;

- Heard Clerk Leon Wright announce that a portion of VBT in the Washtenaw County School District will be having an election on May 3 and so there will be no township board meeting on May 3; and

- Heard resident James Chapman talk of his support to save and restore the old, brick Riggs Heritage House at the corner of East Huron River Drive and Martinsville Road. The township has slated it for demolition. Chapman showed two staircase spindles that he took from the barn on the site 10 years ago. They are hand made and hand decorated and Chapman said he can duplicate the staircase. He said there may be a non-destruction clause in the deed. If there is a deed restriction, the township can't destroy it. He asked, "Is something better going on" [at that site]?

The Belleville-Area Independent New Website is Now Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com Read The Newspaper On The Web!

Canton PD takes part in DEA's Prescription Take-Back Day on Sat.

On Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Canton Police Department will take part in a national collaborative effort with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to remove potentially dangerous prescription drugs from homes in the community.

This national take-back initiative will provide a unified opportunity for the public to turn in expired, unused and unwanted prescription medications to law enforcement for destruction.

Residents of surrounding communities, including Van Buren and Sumpter townships and the city of Belleville, are invited to participate.

Unused or expired prescription medications may be placed in a drop box located in the lobby of the Canton Police Department, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd., between the hours of 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 30.

Drop-offs are free and anonymous, no questions asked. Restrictions include: pills only -- liquids and needles will not be accepted. Prescription drugs can only be accepted by the department during the established program hours.

Community Relations Officer Patty Esselink said people will be asked to open their prescription bottles and shake out the pills into the waiting container. Then, they take their bottles home with them so there will be no personal identification left.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Unused medicines in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines -- flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash -- both pose potential safety and

health hazards.

For questions, contact Community Relations Officer Patty Esselink at (734) 394-5194, or the Canton Police Department at (734) 394-5400.

Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, and City of Belleville police departments are not participating in Saturday's Take-Back Day.

Writer's Group presents Adrian Isom at April 30 meeting at library

The Write Stuff Writer's Group at the Belleville Library is having a local guest author visit from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, April 30, at the Belleville Area District Library.

Anthony L. Isom, a writer who works at the Adrian District Library and is an actor at the Crosswell Opera House, will be visiting Belleville to share his passion, vision, and excitement about writing to any local aspiring authors.

It is a free program and no registration is required. The Write Stuff Writer's Group is a free writing support group for Belleville-area residents and meets the last Saturday of each month from 1-3 in the Library's Tutoring Room.

Birthdays

April 6 – Colin Fulton
 April 24 – Seth Brown-Chudzinski
 April 25 – Shelly Brown-Chudzinski
 April 27 – Amy Hinks, Nicholas Hinks
 April 28 – F. Elizabeth Thurston
 April 29 – Barbara Rogalle Miller
 April 30 – Glenn Silvenis, April Gibson-Warner, Ryder Littlejohn, Kim Steger Hawkins, Kelly McWilliams, Peggy Zywicki
 May 3 – Shari Antieau
 May 4 – Mason Buxton
 May 5 – Jerry LaVaute
 May 6 – Brenda Leonard
 May 7 – Terri Morioka

National Heritage Academies Keystone Academy Public Notice

Public Budget Hearing

will be held for the following
Public School Academy:

Keystone

47925 Bemis, Belleville

(734) 697-9470

May 12, 6 p.m.

Copies of the Budget for the listed Public School Academy will be available at the school office.

City of Belleville Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicles will be held:

2000 CHEVROLET, PICKUP, VIN: 1GCCS14W7YK201874

1998 MERCURY, FOUR DOOR, VIN: 1MEFM6530WK647160

DATE: APRIL 25, 2016 BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
6 MAIN STREET

PUBLISH: APRIL 28, 2016 BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111

BY LISA LONG, CITY CLERK

Family Peace & Harmony Through Estate Planning Free Seminar on April 30, 2016

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. @ Van Buren Twp. Community Center
Participants receive a \$100 Discount on a Basic Estate Planning Package.

For more information, contact:

The Law Office of

Amy M. Eversale

"Where Education and the Law Meet"

152 Main St.
Suite 11

Belleville, Mich. 48111 www.amyversalelaw.com

Call 734-718-8574

Visit



Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, April 28 – Special meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education will be held at 7 p.m. at the Administration Building for “Disposition of Interim Superintendent Position.”
- Monday, May 2 – Belleville City

- Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, May 9 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.
 - Tuesday, May 10 – Van Buren Township Local Development Financing Authority, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Board of

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXECUTE TAX-SUPPORTED CONTRACT AND RIGHT TO PETITION FOR REFERENDUM THEREON

TO THE TAXPAYERS AND ELECTORS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Cities of Flat Rock, Gibraltar and Woodhaven in the County of Wayne, the Charter Townships of Brownstown, Huron and Van Buren in the County of Wayne, and the Village of South Rockwood in the County of Monroe (collectively, the “Local Units” and each a “Local Unit”) have each approved the execution of a contract (the “Contract”)with the South Huron Valley Utility Authority (the “Authority”) pursuant to Act No. 233, Public Acts of Michigan, 1955, as amended, which Contract will provide among other things that the Authority will acquire, construct, furnish and equip improvements to the Authority’s sewage disposal system, consisting generally of reequipping existing biological treatment tanks with new diffused aeration equipment, including mixers, diffusers, blowers, valves, gates, control system improvements, and safety improvements, together with all necessary appurtenances and attachments thereto and will issue its bonds in the approximate amount of not to exceed \$3,700,000 to finance all or part of the cost of said improvements. Each Local Unit, including the Charter Township of Van Buren, will pay to the Authority annually all sums necessary to retire its share of the principal of and interest of said bonds pursuant to a proposed Financing Contract among the Authority and the Local Units. Each Local Unit’s share of such payments shall be based generally on the weighted average of the last three calendar years’ flow percentages for each Local Unit served by the sewage disposal system, approximately as follows:

<u>Local Unit</u>	<u>Percentage of Share</u>
Brownstown Twp.	24.62%
Flat Rock City	15.96%
Gibraltar City	10.02%
Huron Twp.	15.97%
South Rockwood Village	2.29%
Van Buren Twp.	16.96%
Woodhaven City	14.18%

CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS OF THE LOCAL UNITS

It is presently contemplated that said bonds will be issued by the Authority in the principal amount of not to exceed \$3,700,000 and will be payable in not to exceed twenty (20) years, and will bear interest at a rate not exceeding 6% per annum on the outstanding principal balance, subject to revision pursuant to Michigan law and the Contract. The Contract includes the pledge by each Local Unit of its limited tax full faith and credit as security for its obligations under the Contract including payment of its share of debt service on the bonds. PURSUANT TO SUCH PLEDGE, EACH LOCAL UNIT, INCLUDING THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WILL BE REQUIRED TO LEVY AD VALOREM TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES, SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY AND CHARTER TAX RATE LIMITATIONS, TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO MAKE THE LOCAL UNIT’S REQUIRED PAYMENTS UNDER THE CONTRACT IF OTHER FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. It is the present intention of each Local Unit to use the revenues derived from the operation of its sanitary sewer collection system to make substantially all of the payments required to pay its obligations under the Contract.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

FOR EACH LOCAL UNIT, THE CONTRACT WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE without a vote of the electors of the Local Unit, as permitted by law, UNLESS A VALID PETITION REQUESTING AN ELECTION on the question of entering into the Contract, SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF SUCH LOCAL UNIT, is filed with the Clerk of the Local Unit WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS after publication of this notice. If such petition is so filed, the Contract will not become effective with respect to such Local Unit without an approving vote by the majority of electors of the Local Unit voting on the question.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 8 of Act No. 233, Public Acts of Michigan, 1955, as amended. Further information concerning the details of said contract and the matters set out in this notice may be secured from the Charter Township of Van Buren Clerk’s office.

Leon Wright
Leon Wright, Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren

- Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 12 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. (optional) Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

- Monday, May 16 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study session, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDINANCE 4-4-16(7) NOTICE OF ADOPTION

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at the regular meeting of the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees, the second reading of the proposed amendment to the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance, which regulates medical marihuana uses, prohibits dispensaries, permits medical marihuana cultivation facilities in the M-2 (General Industrial) zoning district as Special Land Uses (Section 16.03), and provides standards in proposed Section 4.57, was approved.

A true copy of the proposed Ordinance may be viewed and inspected at the office of the Township Clerk located at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The adopted Zoning Ordinance amendment will be effective seven (7) days after the date of publication.

Posted: April 21, 2016
Published: April 28 2016
Effective: May 6, 2016

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION AND POSTING

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN:

Pursuant to Section 8 of the Michigan Charter Township Act (MCL 42.8) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following ordinances were adopted by the Township Board of Trustees on the 19th day of April 2016:

1. Ordinance 4-4-16(1): ADOPTION OF THE STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE ACT, AS AMENDED. An ordinance to amend sections 18.1 – 18.3 of the Township’s General Code of Ordinances to designate enforcing agencies to discharge the responsibility of the Charter Township of Van Buren, under the provisions of the State Construction Code Act, as amended.
2. Ordinance 4-4-16(2): ADOPTION OF THE MICHIGAN BUILDING CODE, AS AMENDED. An ordinance to amend section 18.31 of the Township’s General Code of Ordinances to adopt by reference the Michigan Building Code, as amended and to designate the Building Official of the Charter Township as the enforcing agency.
3. Ordinance 4-4-16(3): ADOPTION OF THE MICHIGAN RESIDENTIAL CODE, AS AMENDED. An ordinance to amend section 18.46 of the Township’s General Code of Ordinances to adopt by reference the Michigan Residential Code, as amended and to designate the Building Official of the Charter Township as the enforcing agency.
4. Ordinance 4-4-16(4): ADOPTION OF THE MICHIGAN MECHANICAL CODE, AS AMENDED. An ordinance to amend section 18.56 of the Township’s General Code of Ordinances to adopt by reference the Michigan Mechanical Code, as amended and to designate the Mechanical Inspector of the Charter Township as the enforcing agency.
5. Ordinance 4-4-16(5): ADOPTION OF THE MICHIGAN PLUMBING CODE, AS AMENDED. An ordinance to amend section 18.81 of the Township’s General Code of Ordinances to adopt by reference the Michigan Plumbing Code, as amended and to designate the Plumbing Inspector of the Charter Township as the enforcing agency.
6. Ordinance 4-4-16(6): ADOPTION OF THE MICHIGAN ELECTRICAL CODE, AS AMENDED. An ordinance to amend section 18.151 of the Township’s General Code of Ordinances to adopt by reference the Michigan Electrical Code, as amended and to designate the Electrical Inspector of the Charter Township as the enforcing agency.

A true copy of the proposed Ordinances may be viewed and inspected at the office of the Township Clerk located at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan , during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. These ordinances will go into effect upon publication.

Posting Date: April 21, 2016
Date of Publication: April 28, 2016
Effective: April 28, 2016

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 19, 2016

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Engineer Nummer, Developmental Services Director

Akers, Public Services Director Taylor and an audience of twelve (12).
APPROVAL OF AGENDA Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda as amended [Removal of Correspondence item #1]. Motion Carried.
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Hart moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session Minutes of April 4, 2016; Closed Session Minutes of April 4, 2016; Board Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2016; Prepaid List of April 8, 2016 and the Voucher List of April 19, 2016.] Motion Carried.
PUBLIC HEARING: None.
CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs,

on behalf of the Township, presented a proclamation to Mario Perkins recognizing May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month and read an email from a resident thanking Public Safety Deputy Director Wright for his roadside assistance efforts. Doug Simpson, representing the Senior Alliance, provided the Board an update on the efforts and future goals of the Senior Alliance.
PUBLIC COMMENT: None.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.
NEW BUSINESS:
Jahr moved, McClanahan seconded to approve an amendment to the 2016 Planning & Economic Development Departmental Budget to increase the Office Wage line item \$33,000 to continue with the scanning and uploading of building department files and to increase the Contracted Services line item \$15,000 to continue on site services with McKenna & Associates for building demolition and ordinance enforcement administration with funds from the General Fund, Fund balance. Motion Carried.
Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve Resolution 2016-05 allowing Van Buren Township to enter into a contract with SHVUA for financing of the Aeration Mixer Replacement Project. Motion Carried. The estimated amount of \$627,000.00 will be paid from the Water & Sewer restricted cash reserves fund. By paying the entire amount determined by SHVUA the Township will alleviate interest payments on the bonds sold by SHVUA to fully fund the project.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the proposal from Wade Trim for the design engineering, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000, for the paving of McBride Rd. between Quirk Rd. and Beck Rd. Motion Carried. The project will be funded 80% by the Wayne County Local Road Initiative Program and 20% by Van Buren Public Schools.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (1) to amend the General Code of Ordinances Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations Article I-In General by amending Sec. 18-1-18-3. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance addition clarifies the Township's adoption of the Michigan Building Code and its responsibilities thereunder.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (2) to amend the General Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations, Article II - Building Code by amending Sec. 18-31, Agency Designated. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance addition clarifies the Township's adoption of the Michigan Building Code and its responsibilities thereunder.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (3) to amend the General Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations, Article IIA-Residential Code by amending Sec. 18-46, Agency Designated. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance addition clarifies the Township's adoption of the Michigan Residential Code and its responsibilities thereunder.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (4) to amend the General Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations, Article III-Mechanical Code by amending Sec. 18-56, Agency Designated. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance addition clarifies the Township's

adoption of the Michigan Mechanical Code and its responsibilities thereunder.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (5) to amend the General Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations, Article IV-Plumbing Code by amending Sec. 18-81, Agency Designated. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance addition clarifies the Township's adoption of the Michigan Plumbing Code and its responsibilities thereunder.
Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (6) to amend the General Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18 - Buildings and Building Regulations, Article VI-Electrical Code by amending Sec. 18-151, Agency Designated and by removing Sec. 18-171-18-402 Electrical Examining and Appeals Board, Licensing and Registration, & Permits and Inspection. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance addition clarifies the Township's adoption of the Michigan Electrical Code and its responsibilities thereunder.
Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 4-4-16 (7) to amend the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 to provide for regulations governing Medical Marihuana Cultivation Facilities. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. The Ordinance would provide reasonable conditions for the cultivation of marihuana allowed by the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, MCL 333.26421 et seq, as amended (MMMA) and prohibits medical marihuana dispensaries in all zoning districts.
REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs announced the Tri-Community National Day of Prayer will occur on Thursday, May 5th at the Victory Station Building at 5-points in the City of Belleville at noon, the Wayne County Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be Saturday, April 23, 2016 at Huron High School in New Boston and Saturday, June 18, 2016 at Henry Ford College in Dearborn from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., and donations are being accepted by the September Days Senior Center for the annual Flea Market that will occur on Thursday, April 28th and Friday, April 29th from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Clerk Wright announced the May 3, 2016 Special Election for voters in the Lincoln Consolidated Schools District Precinct 10 and the cancellation of the May 3, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting.
NON AGENDA: Resident requested the Board consider restoration of the Riggs Heritage House and questioned if there were possible deed restrictions that prohibited demolition.
ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Motion Carried.
Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Linda Combs, Supervisor
Publish: April 28, 2016

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Notice of Public Hearing Rezoning

The Sumpter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 at 7:05 pm, Thursday, May 12, 2016, regarding for a Rezoning of land parcel summarized below:

NATURE OF SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE REQUEST

The PROPOSED Rezoning is to change the current zoning from AG (Agricultural) to LI (Light Industrial Conditional).

Site Location

The site upon which a Rezoning is being requested is located at 5278 Oakville Waltz Road 81-136-99-0016-000, 12.34 acres.

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act 637 of 1978 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184, 1943) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Publish: April 28, 2016

City of Belleville Public Notice

Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

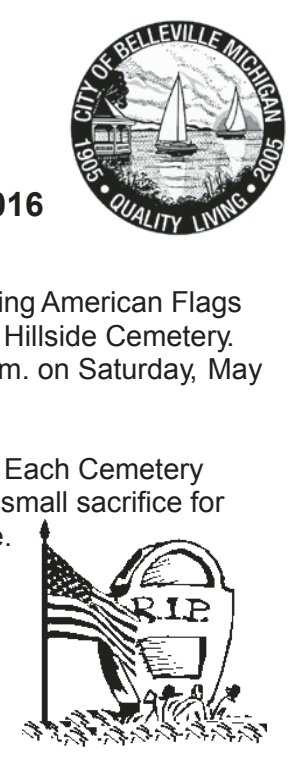
Flag Placement for Memorial Day 2016 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 21st

The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery. The flag placement project will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 21st.

Volunteers are needed to help place the flags. Each Cemetery section takes only about one hour of work - a small sacrifice for us in honor of those who fought to keep us free.

Join us to help honor our veterans as we prepare for Memorial Day 2016, an important year in the history of defending our liberty.

Lisa Long
City Clerk/Treasurer



PUBLISH: April 28, 2016
May 12, 2016

September Days Flea Market

A Flea Market is set for September Days Senior Center on Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Senior Center.

Van Buren Township
Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 659 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, April 17:
0018 – agency assist, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
0043 – malicious destruction of property, Winding Pond Dr.
0049 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
0055 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr., cancel
0139 – family trouble, Marina Dr.
0315 – assault & battery, Town and Country entrance
0412 – abandoned auto, Bog Rd.
0910 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor Rd. / Tyler Rd.
0926 – agency assist, Morton Taylor Rd./Tyler Rd., cancel
1058 – juvenile complaint, Jackson St.
1158 – child abuse, Health Smart Pharmacy
1204 – vehicle repossession, Hull Rd.
1447 – ordinance violation, Haggerty/Bridge
1515 – shots fired, Renton Rd.
1612 – disturbance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1617 – harassment call, Maple
1801 – neighbor trouble, Denton Rd.
1905 – personal injury accident, E I-94/Haggerty
1940 – harassment call, Lauren Ct.
2014 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
2025 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
2030 – disturbance, Parkside Dr.
2228 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / I-94

Monday, April 18:
0039 – retail fraud, Belleville
0710 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0718 – larceny from auto, N. Bellridge Dr.
0736 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0906 – disorderly conduct, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0949 – property damage accident, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1144 – harassment call, Belleville
1147 – missing person, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1416 – private property accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1428 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1518 – vehicle repossession, E. Sadie Ln.
1629 – animal complaint, Winding Pond Dr.
1740 – mental, Quirk Rd.
1832 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville
2123 – property damage accident, Belleville
2344 – property damage accident, E. Huron River Dr./Haggerty Rd.

Tuesday, April 19:
0230 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
1125 – noise complaint, Aspen
1127 – dumping complaint, Alden Ave.
1131 – ordinance violation, Rawsonville Rd.
1140 – malicious destruction of property, Meadows Ln.
1358 – shots fired, Homestead Sub.
1406 – assault & battery, Haggerty Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1420 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1425 – abandoned auto, Tyler Rd./Springwood Blvd.
1603 – fraud, S. Woodbury Dr.
1700 – fraud, Fay Dr.
1724 – fraud, Country Ln.
1905 – assault & battery, Landmark
1936 – neighbor trouble, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2056 – assault & battery, Van Buren St.
2117 – harassment call, E. Huron River Dr.
2349 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
Wednesday, April 20:
0028 – noise complaint, Meadows Ln.
0416 – property damage accident, Bemis Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
0922 – abandoned auto, Republic Dr.
1301 – personal injury accident, Haggerty / Van Born
1306 – suspicious person, Belleville
1340 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1418 – private property accident, Van Born Rd.
1440 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service

Dr. / Hannan Rd.
1635 – assault & battery, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1650 – fraud, Winding Pond Dr.
1701 – assault & battery, E. Huron River Dr.
1747 – private property accident, J&T
1751 – juvenile complaint, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1856 – fraud, Beacon Trl.
1932 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton
2115 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Rolan Meadows Dr./Tyler Rd.
2235 – agency assist, Wear Rd.
Thursday, April 21:
0847 – larceny from auto, Victoria St.
1031 – vehicle repossession, Lake Pointe Blvd., cancel
1058 – narcotics crime, Belleville Rd.
1116 – suspicious situation, Lake Pointe Pass / W. Huron River Dr.
1146 – agency assist, Basswood Cir.
1248 – fraud, Spencer Ave.
1407 – agency assist, Harbour Pointe
1621 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Bemis Rd.
1729 – larceny, McBride Ave.
1850 – fraud, Lenmoore Ave.
2013 – parking complaint, Belleville
2127 – fraud, Belleville
2230 – civil matter, McBride Ave.

Friday, April 22:
0756 – assault & battery, Quirk Rd.
0929 – private property accident, Savage School
1213 – private property incident, Ironwood Dr.
1221 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd./I-94 Service Dr.
1235 – intimidation threat, Price Rd.
1426 – neighbor trouble, Spencer Ave.
1458 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1608 – fraud, Celestine Dr.
1709 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1735 – suspicious person, Belle Pointe Dr.
1849 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1915 – disorderly conduct, Pine Dr.
1959 – noise complaint, W. Archwood
2014 – mental, Ecorse Rd.

Saturday, April 23:
0024 – noise complaint, Jeremy Rd.
0153 – vehicle repossession, Fay Dr.
1028 – assault & battery, Bradley Dr.
1238 – larceny from auto, Senate St.
1246 – assault & battery, Lighthouse Dr.
1451 – neighbor trouble, Oak Blvd.
1456 – property damage accident, Denton/tracks
1620 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. /S. I-94 Service Dr.
1620 – neighbor trouble, Peachtree Ln.
1635 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1701 – larceny, Marina Dr.
1756 – disturbance, Oak Blvd.
1804 – narcotics crime, Meadows Cir.
1934 – narcotics crime, Kirkridge
2117 – noise complaint, Purple Sage
2234 – intimidation threat, Parkwood
2354 – assault & battery, Lakeview Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 236 traffic stop, 29 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police
Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 17:
0113 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0740 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.
1049 – domestic assault, Biggs Ave.
1148 – miscellaneous complaint, Main St.
1334 – E-911 hang up/investigation, N. Liberty St. / Fifth St., cancel
1606 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1614 – narcotics crime, Estrada Dr.
1819 – disturbance, Belle Villa playground
2242 – suspicious situation, Belle Villa Blvd.
2247 – warrant arrest, Carmell St.
Monday, April 18:
0740 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
0745 – suspicious person, Loranger’s
0942 – assist fire dept., Potter Dr.
1559 – property check, Sumpter Rd.
1710 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Bay Pointe
1818 – warrant arrest, Hogback Wash. Jail

Tuesday, April 19:
0158 – found property, Chase bank
0839 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
0938 – intrusion alarm, Belle Villa Blvd.
1115 – assault & battery, Main St.
1307 – assault & battery, McBride Middle School
1417 – private property accident, Main St.
1437 – property damage accident, South St.
1623 – civil matter, Henry St.
1825 – traffic complaint, Family Dollar
1844 – warrant arrest, Main St.
2014 – vehicle repossession, N. Aberdeen Ct.
2106 – P.b.t. alcohol, Main St.

Wednesday, April 20:
0953 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Third St., cancel
1014 – disorderly conduct, E. Columbia Ave.
1648 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1440 – juvenile complaint, Harbour Pointe/BHS
1855 – civil matter, Harbour Pointe Dr.
1923 – disorderly conduct, Bayou Grill
2201 – all other traffic, Carmell St.
2249 – motorist assist, Main St./High St.

Thursday, April 21:
0014 – suspicious vehicle, N. Edgemont Ave.
0059 – malicious destruction of property, Church St. / W. Columbia Ave.
0138 – suspicious situation, Capistrano Ct.
0213 – disturbance, Belle Villa Blvd.
1233 – animal complaint, Third St./Main St.
1350 – trespassing, W. Columbia Ave.
2310 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
Friday, April 22:
0134 – property check, W. Columbia Ave.
1602 – vehicle lockout, N. Liberty St.
1700 – juvenile complaint, N. Liberty St.
2105 – assist citizen, Third St.
2116 – intrusion alarm, Main St.

Saturday, April 23:
0347 – suspicious situation, St. Anthony
0433 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
0820 – domestic assault, N. Liberty St.
2118 – suspicious situation, State Farm
2125 – animal complaint, Carmell St.
2234 – domestic assault, Henry St.
2350 – follow up, Carmell St.

Also on this week’s log are 42 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township
Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 17:
0117 – noise complaint, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0134 – minor in possession violation, Clark / Willow
0237 – minor in possession violation, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0317 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0806 – well-being check, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.
1116 – suspicious vehicle, Haggerty/Willow
1209 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1251 – ORV complaint, 46000 bl. Bontekoe
1424 – shots fired, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1835 – neighbor dispute, Carriage Ln.
1839 – fight, Willis/Sumpter
1924 – animal complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
2240 – harassment complaint, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

Monday, April 18:
0530 – recovered stolen property, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
1035 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1043 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1113 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1221 – civil dispute, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1254 – neighbor dispute, 22000 bl. Clark Rd.
1518 – animal bite, Redwood
1530 – malicious destruction of property, Knollwood
1642 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.
1905 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Harris Rd.
2312 – suspicious vehicle, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.

Tuesday, April 19:
0631 – alarm, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1109 – larceny, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1209 – subpoena service, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1423 – suspicious incident, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1726 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1927 – mental health commitment, 44000 bl. Dunn
2019 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
2034 – suspicious incident, Virginia

2123 – warrant arrest pick up, Rustic Ln.
2308 – harassment complaint, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
Wednesday, April 20:
1018 – fire dept. assist, 5400 bl. Oakville Waltz
1235 – traffic hazard, Willow/Carleton West
1242 – suspicious vehicle, Clark/Huron
1602 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1702 – harassment complaint, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2102 – assist other agency, out of township
2140 – reckless driver, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2149 – harassment complaint, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2214 – death investigation, 28000 bl. Sherwood
2220 – family trouble, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.

Thursday, April 21:
0252 – well-being check, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0820 – juvenile complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1156 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1625 – assist other agency, Bemis/Rawsonville
1658 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
1754 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.

Friday, April 22:
0746 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1041 – animal complaint, Oakville Waltz/Karr
1152 – well-being check, E. Arkona
2026 – suspicious incident, 28000 bl. Martinsville
2138 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2353 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Willis
Saturday, April 23:
0323 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0911 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0951 – citizen assist, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1319 – found property, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.
1357 – mental health commitment, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1650 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
1740 – juvenile complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1944 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
2242 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
2242 – noise complaint, Country Club Blvd.
2333 – noise complaint, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 11 follow-up investigations, 31 miscellaneous details, 111 patrol checks, and 24 traffic stops.

May is Motorcycle
Safety Awareness Month
in Van Buren Township

At its regular meeting April 19, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees heard Supervisor Linda Combs present a proclamation naming May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in the township.

It read:
WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Van Buren has many citizens who are concerned about motorcycle safety and awareness for touring, recreation, and economical transportation; and

WHEREAS, May is the nationally recognized month that motorcycles become more prevalent on our streets, the need to be aware of their presence is of the utmost urgency; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of motorcycle awareness as a distinct part of the driver education curriculum and motorcycle rider education programs will help to promote safe driver and motorcycle riding practices; and

WHEREAS, Wayne County has had an active Motorcycle Riders Education program running continuously since 1979, one of the longest running in the country; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of our community and the citizens of the Charter Township of Van Buren to note the increase in the amount of motorcycle traffic, as we enter the warm weather months, to enable the reduction of accidents and injuries involving motorcycles, I hereby proclaim May as Motorcycles Awareness Month in the Charter Township of Van Buren Township.

Signed Supervisor Linda Combs

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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Zywicki Greenhouses at 50705 Willow Road just east of Rawsonville Road is open for the season selling bedding plants, vegetables, flats, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, rose bushes and over 48 varieties of tomato plants. The family-owned business has been selling plants for more than 50 years. They're open at 8 a.m. seven days a week. Visit www.zywickigreenhouse.com and call (734) 461-6197.

On the north end of Belleville, **Garden Fantasy Greenhouse** is opening May 2 in its new location at **43250 Tyler Road**, near Morton Taylor Road. Owners **Walt and Joyce Rochowiak** have moved their retail and greenhouse operations selling flowers, vegetable plants, flats, hanging baskets, perennials, bedding plants, bag soil, and much more. They're open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (734) 697-1765.

The **3rd-Annual Art & Garden Show** is this Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at **47947 West Huron River Drive** in Belleville. The event will feature works by local artists and plants for sale.

Una's Golden Thread Shoppe in New Boston will be closed for spring break May 2 through the 20th so there's still time to get some sewing and alterations done. Call (734) 753-5873.

It's pond-stocking **Fish Day** next Tuesday, May 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the **Willis Feed Mill** in Willis. Fish available include Channel catfish, largemouth bass, Redear, bluegill, minnows, black crappie and Koi, if available. To place an order, call (870) 578-9773.

The **Leo's Coney Island** in Belleville will be having a Dine-to-Donate fundraiser for the **Michigan Chapter of Honor & Remember** with 10% of the sales from 11

a.m. to 8 p.m. going to the charity. Some flyers will be available at the restaurant. Call (734) 697-1000. To learn more about the charity, call **LeRoy Paige** at (734) 697-7034 and visit www.honorandremember.org.

Belleville Auto Supply is an **Auto Value Parts Store** with everything you need for the do-it-yourself mechanic, including heavy-duty and truck parts, drums and rotor turning, performance parts, marine parts, batteries, and much more. They're located at **321 Industrial Drive** in the Davenport Plaza, and open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and closed on Sunday. Call (734) 697-3151.

Armstrong's Funland Ice Cream & Miniature Golf on Belleville Road just north of Tyler Road is opening for the season this Saturday, April 30, serving up hard- and soft-serve ice cream treats, banana-split specials, shakes, hot dogs, wings, drinks, and much more. All Moms get a free flower on Mother's Day, May 8, and the car shows return every Wednesday, starting May 11, from 5 to 8 p.m. They're open seven days from noon to 9 p.m. Call (734) 699-3550 and visit www.armstrongsfunland.com.

Monroe Fine Art Fair seeking painters, print makers, wood carvers...

The organizing committee for the 13th-annual Downtown Monroe Fine Art Fair is seeking painters, print makers, photographers, wood carvers, stained glass artists, jewelry makers, fiber artists, sculptors, potters, and other artists to participate in this year's festival, Saturday and Sunday Aug. 13 and 14. Saturday's hours are from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday's hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Booth space is \$100 for the two-day event. Artists must provide their own tents. Electricity is available upon request and chairs and tables can be rented for a small fee.

Applications are available at the festival website at: downtownmonroeartfair.com. For more information, call Jennifer at (734) 242-1472 or Bev at (734) 242-8308.

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11716 JUNIPER, VAN BUREN
MILLION DOLLAR LAKEFRONT Panorama Views in this Custom Built Full Brick 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath Home. More than 150 Feet of Lake Frontage. Home Professionally Designed for Optimum Lakefront Enjoyment and Constructed with an Unyielding Commitment to Quality. Premiere Lake Lot \$495,000



929 HURON RIVER, VAN BUREN
SERENE, PEACEFUL AND PRIVATE with 100+ Feet of Lake Frontage. 1.7 Acres, First Floor Master, Kitchen with Granite Countertops, Finished Walkout Lower Level with Family Room and Full Bath. Three Decks on All Levels, Hot Tub, Waterfront Dock, New Furnace 2014, Brand New Roof in 2016 This one has it All! \$629,900



45951 HULL, VAN BUREN TWP
10 ACRES - LARGER MOVE IN CONDITION Vinyl Ranch with Family Room, Fireplace, Living Room, Dining Room, Wet Bar. Offers 4 large bedrooms, 2 full baths and 10 closets. Countless Updates, Screened back porch 2 1/2 Car Garage, 20 x 24 ft pole barn. City Water & Sewer. Possible split. \$225,000



13551 STAMFORD VAN BUREN
SHOWOFFS DREAM Richly appointed with 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths 4 (FOUR!) Fireplaces, Custom Lighting, Trim Work, Incredible Quality Kitchen with Granite Countertops, Extra Insulation, Finished Basement with Wet Bar, Trex Deck, Sprinkler, Brick Paver Walk & Patio. \$289,900



8533 MEADOW SPRINGS, SUMPTER
QUALITY BUILT Cape Cod w/ Cherry Cabinets, Marble Counter tops, Ceramic, Hardwood Floors, Oak Trim & Pella Windows. 2 Fireplaces, 4 Colossal Bedrooms 3 Full Baths, Finished Walkout Basement & Views of Large Stocked Pond. 2 1/2 Car Garage & 24x30 Pole Barn \$319,900.



9702 ANDOVER, VAN BUREN
BOOMING WITH ROOM 4 bedroom, 3 Bath Colonial with open Living Room, Hardwood Floors, Fireplace. Formal dining room & Breakfast area. Lower level with Full bath, Bedroom & Family room with Custom Built Entertainment Center Area. Privacy a plus with enclosed and fenced yard. It's a Beauty! \$204,900



42079 ARTHUR, VAN BUREN
KING SIZED QUALITY Impressive and Huge Brick and Vinyl 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Colonial in Van Buren Estates. Renovated and upgraded to the Max and offering and astounding 1,880 Square Feet. Corner Lot with 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage and More. Buy BIG and this is the one to see - no disappointments here. Priced at \$129,900



12540 BECK, VAN BUREN
NATURE'S BEAUTY SURROUNDS this Full Brick Ranch with Walkout Basement in THE Preferred Location. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Family Room with Fireplace, Central Air and Florida Room. Large Barn & Near Belleville Lake. Built with Quality, Fine Design and Pampered with Loving Care \$225,000



6315 DENTON, VAN BUREN
CLASSIC LINES AND TIMELESS DESIGN. Impressive and Updated 4 Bedroom Victorian Home with Wrap Porch Master Bedroom with Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Basement, High Energy Efficient Furnace and Updating Everywhere. 2 1/2 Car Garage PLUS Bonus Second Home w 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$209,900

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
VACANT MCKEAN 11+ ACRES \$89,500
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES \$35,000
26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$35,000
26405 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$35,000

25817 SUMPTER RD. 97 ACRES \$20,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT \$27,500
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
VACANT RAWSONVILLE 57 AC \$250,000

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES \$30,000
VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES \$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$25,000
BOHN NEAR DUNN 5 ACRES \$29,000

BELLEVILLE
337 MAIN .32 ACRES 83X165 \$79,500
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES \$35,000
47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES \$176,000
VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES \$29,750

VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$30,000
VACANT BOG RD 12.83 ACRES \$129,000
6422 GILMORE 82X165 LOT WITH WATER AND SEWER PRICED RIGHT AT \$19,500
BOG ROAD 2.74 ACRES \$47,500
5900 DELLOR 1.81 ACRES \$33,333



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